



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Dobmeier, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/695,123  
Filed: 10/28/2003  
Group Art Unit: 3744  
Examiner:  
Title: EXPANSION DEVICE WITH LOW REFRIGERANT  
CHARGE MONITORING

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

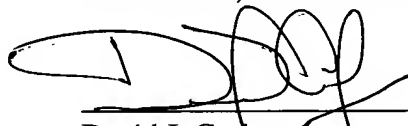
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicant hereby makes of record the items listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

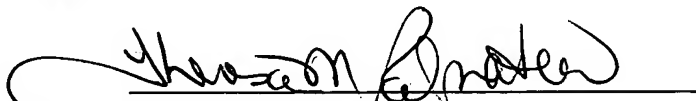
**CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS**

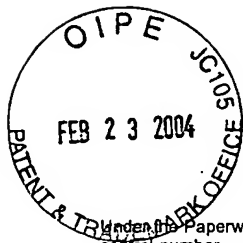
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Gaskey  
Registration No. 37,139  
400 W. Maple, Suite 350  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 988-8360

Dated: February 19, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 19, 2004.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Theresa M. Palmateer



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|   |             |                               |                   |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO   |             | <b>Complete if Known</b>      |                   |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |             | <b>Application Number</b>     | 10/695,123        |
|   |             | <b>Filing Date</b>            | 10/28/2003        |
|   |             | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | Dobmeier, et al.  |
|   |             | <b>Art Unit</b>               | 3744              |
|   |             | <b>Examiner Name</b>          |                   |
| <b>Sheet</b> 1  | <b>of</b> 2 | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 60246-245; 10,754 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS             |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>*</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                   |                          | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US- 6,206,652 B1                           | 03-27-2001                     | Caillat  |   |
|                                   |                          | US- 6,047,556                              | 04-11-2000                     | Lifson   |   |
|                                   |                          | US- 5,875,637                              | 03-02-1999                     | Paetow   |   |
|                                   |                          | US- 4,876,859                              | 10-31-1989                     | Kitamoto   |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS          |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>*</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                   |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | -Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |
|                                   |                          |                           |  |                                |  |   |

|                               |  |                            |  |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Examiner<br/>Signature</b> |  | <b>Date<br/>Considered</b> |  |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+

+

|   |      |                        |                          |                  |
|---|------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |      |                        | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                  |
|   |      |                        | Application Number       | 10/695,123       |
|   |      |                        | Filing Date              | 10/28/2003       |
|   |      |                        | First Named Inventor     | Dobmeier, et al. |
|   |      |                        | Group Art Unit           |                  |
|   |      |                        | Examiner Name            |                  |
| Sheet 2   | of 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 60246-245; 10,754        |                  |

Stamp: OIPE JC105  
FEB 23 2004  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

[illegible]

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

